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(Part of NSRB Doc. 81/1)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 5, 1949

THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

NSC Review Completed

Maj. Gen. Philip B. Fleming
Administrator
Federal Works Agency
Washington, D. C.

John L. Taylor
Deputy Commissioner for Rec
Entire Management,
Federal Works Agency.

Dear General Fleming:

(Note: See B-18-11-4 F)

You will recall that following the Cabinet meeting on Friday, December 31, 1948, I discussed briefly with you Recommendation to the President No. 13 by the National Security Resources Board (NSRB-R-13, October 27, 1948). Two copies are attached for your information and use. Each consists of three parts: (1) a letter of transmittal from the Chairman of NSRB, (2) the recommendation, and (3) a supporting staff report.

Today I am writing to the heads of agencies involved in order that the recommendation may be implemented as rapidly as possible. This letter constitutes your official notification to proceed with the assignments that accrue to the Federal Works Agency in Sections 1, 4, and 7(2) of the recommendation.

With reference to Section 1, I am addressing a letter of this date to Maj. Gen. U. S. Grant 3d, Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, calling his attention to the responsibilities that also affect his agency. However, I am also informing General Grant that I am asking you to take the lead in developing the necessary interagency staff work for this phase of the recommendation.

Under Section 4 of the recommendation, your attention is directed to the third paragraph of former Chairman Arthur M. Hill's letter of transmittal to the White House dated October 27, 1948, in which emphasis was placed on the emergency aspects of some of the parts of NSRB-R-13, including Section 4. As you know, the National Security Resources Board has been holding

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- 2 -

consideration of an emergency plan, which would further implement this recommendation, until final White House approval had been received for the master plan as contained in NSRB-R-13. However, the pending action by the Board on the emergency plan should in no way deter action by your agency under NSRB-R-13.

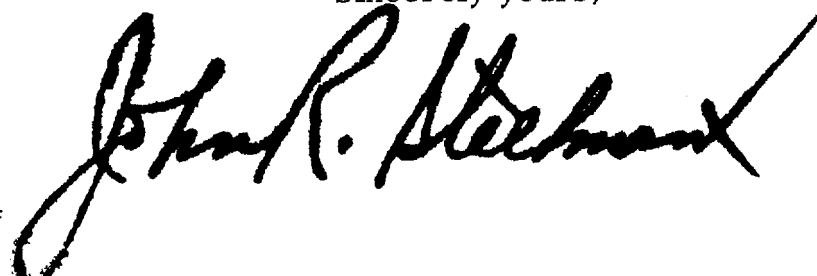
Under Section 7(2), the Federal Works Agency should take the lead in developing with other Government agencies such plans as appear necessary. The facilities of the staff of NSRB are available to assist you in developing a basis for joint staff work with other agencies.

The Bureau of the Budget is being instructed to undertake the studies contemplated in Sections 2 and 3 of the recommendation.

The staff of NSRB has been asked to follow progress in carrying out the specific steps outlined in the recommendation, and for reporting to the President on such progress. In this capacity the NSRB staff will coordinate the work of the various agencies involved in implementing the recommendation. The responsibilities of the staff of NSRB in this connection have been assigned to Mr. Gayle W. Arnold, Assistant Director, Office of Production, and Mr. I. D. Brent, Director of the Industrial and Governmental Dispersion Division. The NSRB staff also will take the lead in developing plans under Section 7(1).

In order that you may be fully informed on steps being taken to implement this recommendation, I am attaching copies of my letters of this date to Mr. James E. Webb, Director of the Bureau of the Budget, and Maj. Gen. U. S. Grant 3d. I wish to take this opportunity to express to you my appreciation of the contribution that has been made to the development of this recommendation by Messrs. J. W. Follin, W. E. Reynolds, and T. H. MacDonald, who have represented the Federal Works Agency on the interagency committee organized for this task. I trust that their valued services will continue to be available to this important phase of our national security program.

Sincerely yours,



Attachments - 4

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